

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division, the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

AER drive to kick off

Pfc. Ricardo Branch
Associate Editor

Fort Stewart's 2005 Army Emergency Relief Fund will kick off in a campaign ceremony early next year.

AER is a private nonprofit organization within the Army and every dollar contributed to the AER campaign goes directly to loans and grants given to assist Soldiers, retirees and dependants when they are faced with financial emergencies they are unable to handle on their own.

"AER was established to help the Soldiers and their families and it's through the Soldiers that the Army provides for its' own," said Fredrick Sledge, AER officer.

Last year, the amount of emergency assistance provided by both the Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield AER sections was over 2 million dollars - almost 12 times the amount of the campaign contributors received from the entire region.

"With the division's last deployment to Iraq, contributions were reduced for the 2004 campaign, so it's important to donate, which gives your support to the Soldiers and community

See DRIVE, Page 3A

Widow copes with grief

Shawn Ledington
Army News Service

YORK, Pa. — Many times in her 16-month marriage to Spc. Nicholas Zangara, Mell Zangara would climb into his military uniform and prance around their apartment as though she was on a catwalk.

"Don't I look hot, baby?" she'd ask him. "Wouldn't you like to see me come home to you in this?"

Nicky would give her that look, the one that told her to give him a break.

"You're not joining the Army," he'd say.

New Beginnings

Before marrying Nicky in March 2003, Mell was at rock bottom. Out of high school, but not going to college, she filled her days with alcohol and partying while bouncing from job to job.

She got to know Nicky through an Internet chat room. He inspired her to change her life.

"If I want a chance with him, I'm going to have to change," she decided.

She wanted to be a better person for him. And she could tell he became a better person for her, too. He was promoted; his personality became softer, nicer.

She and 21-year-old Nicky spent many hours on the phone and, after their first meeting, married. She moved to Germany, where he was stationed, to be with him.

Mell soon began talking about joining the Army as her own career opportunity. She even completed the written and physical tests and was planning to become a parachute rigger so she could learn to jump out of airplanes.

Nicky, however, felt their relationship would suffer from the potential time apart with deployments and training.

Then in February, he was sent to Iraq, taking his uniforms with him.

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Pvt. Nathan Denman (top) and Pfc. Josh Blodgett (bottom), both of HHSC, 4th Brigade, practice treating a casualty during line 8 training Sept. 17 as a part of the semi-annual combat medic skills validation test.

Bring the pain

4th Bde. medics test skills during Table 8 training

Pvt. Dan Balda
Staff Writer

Medics assigned to the 4th Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, underwent Table Eight training at the Boar's Nest, Sept. 16 as a part of the semi-annual combat medic skills validation test.

Some of the tasks the Soldiers were tested on were non-trauma assessment, immobilization of bone/joint injuries and evacuation of casualties, said Master Sgt. Tony Williams, the Division Surgeon Office noncommissioned officer in charge.

"I read a lot of the after action reviews of units that came back from Iraq too see what kind of injuries medics over there dealt with the most," Williams said. "The training also just happened to work out with the coming deployment."

Training tables one through seven was a 'dry run' where the Soldiers practiced each assigned task before the actual grading.

"The Soldiers are practicing a lot of skills that are perishable, and skills that will be in high demand when we go to Iraq like reacting to IED's (improvised explosive device) attacks," he said.

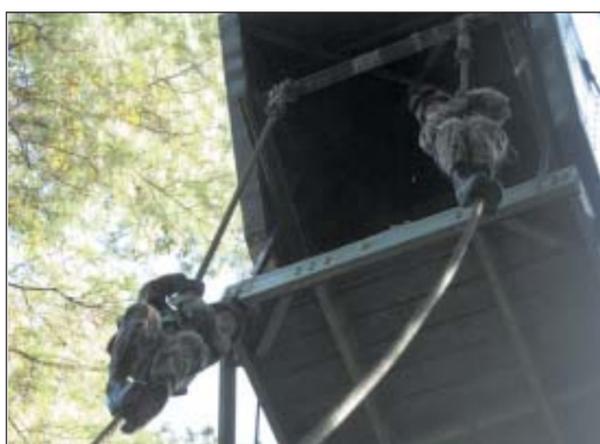
"All these medics have done this kind of thing before so it is kind of a dry run," said Maj. David Seiffert, chief division nurse.

"This week we have received a lot of excellent support from 4th Bde. They have some excellent trainers to help everybody out," he said.

"The training keeps the various procedures fresh in our minds," said Pvt. Josh Blodgett, Headquarters and Headquarters Support Company.

"It gets us as prepared as we can be in a training environment," he said.

"Thanks to the training today I feel confident in my abilities," said Pfc. Jess Johnston, Headquarters and Headquarters Support Company. "We don't do this kind of training that often but



Pvt. Dan Balda

6/8 Cav. Soldiers fast rope from a 45-foot tower at Hunter Army Airfield Sept. 30.

Cav. unit practices 'Air Assault' skills

Pvt. Dan Balda
Staff Writer

Most Soldiers had some experience with rappelling during basic combat training.

Before leaving the safety of the tower, Soldiers made sure their harnesses were snug against their bodies so they would feel a little bit safer before stepping off. Some of the Soldiers had an issue with the height but the drill sergeants made sure that they still completed the task.

Sixty Soldiers from B Troop, 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry, did much of the same training Sept. 28 at Hunter

Army Airfield — except instead of using harnesses, the only extra equipment used was thick gloves and their boots to slow their descent from the 45-foot tower.

"There are two ways to get out of a helicopter," said Capt. Shannon Hume, commander. "You either wait for it to land or get close enough to the ground for the troops to jump out, or you have to use ropes to land in certain areas that are not easily accessible."

Despite the fact that a cavalry unit might not usually perform this kind of mission, Hume still saw the need for the training.

"Usually this is a Ranger-type mission but we might get called to do something out of the ordinary," Hume said. "4th Infantry Division is a tank unit and they performed 47 air assault missions while in Iraq, so it never hurts to get more advanced training. We always want to increase mission capability so we can provide options for the commander once we get in country."

"If we never do this kind of thing again the Soldiers will always remember this training and the confidence they gained from roping down from

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Weather Forecast

FRI
High 85° Low 68°

SAT
High 87° Low 68°

SUN
High 84° Low 63°

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Hunter Soldiers boogie down with veterans

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
Staff Writer

Savannah's River's Edge Retirement Community hosted a 1940s World War II-era dance for its residents Sept. 20.

The dance was fashioned after those the United Services Organization held for Soldiers during the war.

Hunter Army Airfield Soldiers were invited to join the party, and several donned their dress uniforms and headed out to the dance floor with the River's Edge residents.

It was the kickoff of the Senior Safari, an annual week-long event at the retirement community.

"We chose the USO theme (for the dance) because of everything going on with the war ... there was a lot of talk about World War II," said Judy Hastings, community manager. "Our sponsor is the Veteran's History Project with the Library of Congress ... it's a good match."

River's Edge residents said they were pleased with the event's theme.

"This takes me back to La Jolla, Calif., when I was stationed at Camp Callan," said resident Jim Colmey. "This reminds me of the USO we had there in 1943 ... they were awful nice to us."

The community staff dressed up in the fashions of the day, from white nurses' uniforms to 'Rosie the Riveter' ensembles. One staff member, activities director Amy Lane, donned the garb of a cigarette girl and distributed candy cigarettes to anyone who asked.

River's Edge is home to approximately 15 retired veterans.

"Dances like this take them down memory lane," she said. "It helps them feel young again. They love music; it's good therapy."

Attendees echoed McMaken's words.

"I love to dance," said Earl Thompson. "I'm enjoying myself very much."

His wife, Edwina, added, "This is one of the best entertainments we've had."



Photos by Spc. Emily Wilsoncroft

Spc. Ken Fisher, Headquarters Company, Headquarters Command, dances with Amy Lane, the activities director and cigarette girl for the evening, at a USO-style dance at River's Edge Retirement Community Sept. 20.



Soldiers from Hq. Co., Hq. groove on the dance floor with residents of River's Edge Retirement Community.



Tom and Judy Hutchinson dress the part for dance.



Attendees of the festivities do a 1940s version of the Electric Slide at the USO-style dance.

DRIVE

from page 1A

left behind and ensures that they'll be taken care of should an emergency occur," Sledge said.

Soldiers are asked to help their own organizations, as well as their fellow Soldiers.

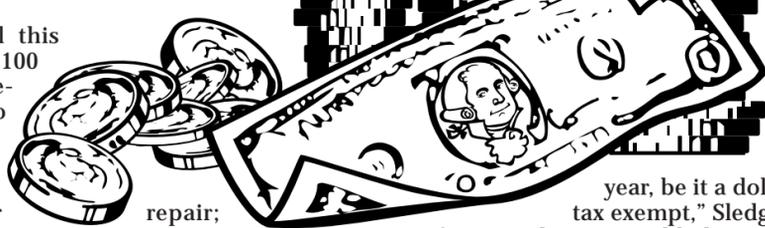
"Financial assistance is provided in the form of interest-free loans/and or grants, with 96 cents of every dollar contributed going to help Soldiers and 4 cents going to help AER fund raising expenses," Sledge said.

Stewart and Hunter have a goal this upcoming year's campaign and that's 100 percent solicitation and encouragement of all Soldiers to contribute to AER as it is all about Soldiers helping Soldiers in need. As all troops are equally important to AER; Soldiers can expect prompt attention to their requests.

"Soldiers in the National Guard and Reserve are eligible for AER relief if they've been on active duty for more than 30 days, as well as those retired from active duty for

a disability," Sledge said. "Surviving spouses and orphans of Soldiers, who died while on active duty or after they retired are also eligible."

AER assistance can help with numerous emergencies as: food, initial and delinquent rent or utilities; emergency travel and vehicle



repair; funeral expenses; loss of funds; dental/medical expenses, health and welfare.

However, AER cannot help with emergencies as: financing ordinary leave or

vacation; pay fines or legal expenses; help liquidate or consolidate dept.; assist with house purchases or home improvement; help purchase, rent or lease a vehicle; cover bad checks or pay credit card bills.

In addition to contributions received during the AER campaign, the organization receives their funds from repayment of interest-free loans, income from investments and unsolicited contributions from individuals.

"You can contribute anytime through out the year, be it a dollar or over \$250, which is tax exempt," Sledge said.

He added, "Just stop by the Soldiers Center, and head to the AER room, located on the second floor and pick up an AER donation slip and you could begin helping your fellow Soldiers."

ROPE

from page 1A

that tower," Hume said.

Pfc. Benjamin Lovelace, a unit scout, likened the training to bungee jumping.

"It's a lot easier to jump out of the tower but you still get that kind of rush from overcoming your fears," he said. "Having your fellow Soldiers cheering you on as you reach out for the rope is great, it really motivates you."

Pfc. Anthony Petrillo did not get the chance to rappel in basic but still found the training easy and fun.

"The worst part is grabbing the rope and worrying if you're holding the rope tight enough, and then you get disappointed because by the time you're not worried anymore the ride is over."

"Every little bit of training helps the unit," said Pvt. Daniel Meservey, a unit scout. "This stuff was great, I'd fast rope all day long if I could."

WIDOW

from page 1A

In July, he was killed by a roadside bomb.

Suddenly, at 20 years old, Mell was a widow.

But she never lost interest in putting on her own military uniform.

Dealing with Grief

In the last two months, Mell has been tearing herself up inside over Nicky's death. The grief caused her to shed 25 pounds.

She longs to feel the camouflaged fabric of his Army uniform next to her skin again.

Some days are worse than others.

She was having a really bad "Nicholas Day," in early September.

She wasn't angry, just intensely sad — a hard to explain feeling, a feeling only another war widow might understand.

In that mood, she drove to the Army recruiter's office and signed on the dotted line — the final step she needed to enlist.

Mell's parents, whom she lives with in Jackson Township and calls her best friends, weren't thrilled with the idea that their daughter enlisted.

She knew they wouldn't be, so she didn't tell them until things were said and

done.

Now, reluctantly, they are happy for her and proud.

They just hope she isn't sent to Iraq.

"Like any parent wants their child sent to Iraq right now," Mell said.

Tough Times Still Ahead

Sept. 20, when Nicky's belongings arrived from Iraq, became another one of those bad days. Letters, cards, photos and other special love notes she sent him since February, when he was deployed, were stacked and organized among the rubble of compact discs, DVDs, Game Boy games and other toys.

Everything but his uniform was inside, and she's not sure why.

In the weeks and months to come, she knows she'll still have bad Nicky days.

She'll suffer through them. She must.

She'll proudly climb into that Army combat uniform every day.

She'll stand at attention in an Army formation. She'll march, left, right, left, right. She'll run hard, climb fast and crawl on the gritty ground.

She'll tuck and fold the sheets of her bed, dress orderly in uniform and follow superiors' strict, barking orders.

And as every bead of sweat drips down her neck and with every heavy step she takes in those nine weeks of basic training, she will be motivated like few others in her class.

She'll be energized by Nicky, who took similar steps when he joined the Army in March 2001. She'll envision how he squeezed his arm muscles to finish a final push up, breathed heavily while jumping obstacles, skillfully maneuvered climbing walls.

And, if she ends up in Iraq, she'll find out just how life must have been for him in the weeks leading up to the day when a roadside bomb blew up the truck he was driving and killed him instantly.

Filling MP Ranks

When she signed up at the recruiter's office, she chose to spend her four-year enlistment in the military police, which she says is the closest thing to being on the front lines for a woman.

She doesn't want to be a nurse, a caretaker or stuck in some office filing papers.

She prefers to be up close to the enemy, the one that took her husband's life.

"I just want to go fight," she said.

She wants to finish what Nicky started.

It's not about revenge, she said. It's about finding out what her husband went through. Mell figures if her husband could handle war, so can she.

But Mell isn't trying to act tough.

She admits she's scared to death and that there will be times when she regrets the decision she's made.

But, she said, she has Nicky's presence with her daily, a feeling she said will give her the extra "umph" she'll need to survive boot camp and, potentially, war.

"I know he's going to take care of me," she said. "He won't let anything happen to me."

Army Spc. Nicholas "Nicky" Zangara, 21, was killed July 24 when a roadside bomb set by Iraqis blew up near his Humvee in Tikrit. A soldier in the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, he was the only Soldier killed in the attack. He was from the Philadelphia area.

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VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Stop loss: A necessary evil, or just necessary?

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
Staff Writer

Commentary

Stop-loss, stop-movement, stop everything.

Some say it's a good thing, some call it a necessary evil, and some don't even care, but the fact is, for many Soldiers in the 3rd Infantry Division, it's about to matter quite a bit.

I'm not affected by the upcoming stop-loss, mainly because I signed myself over to the Army until 2007 anyway, but walking around lately, it seems to me like I'm the only one who doesn't really mind if it's put into effect.

Although I know Spc. Jimmy D. Lane will probably retort with some uber-hooah bit about how if you're upset about the stop-loss you're a whining, sissy, girly man, I'd like to take this opportunity to say that he would be full of hot air.

After spending less than one hour in the Hunter Army Airfield Post Exchange talking to random officers and enlisted folks of all ranks and ages, I discovered that even the most high-speed Soldiers believe that when it's time to get out, it's time to get out.

The common stereotype in the Army is that junior enlisted Soldiers hate even the thought of stop loss,

while the senior enlisted and officers usually have a "What has to be done, has to be done" attitude.

Not necessarily. One Chief Warrant Officer 4 (who preferred to keep his name out of the paper) managed to keep a stiff upper lip as he said, "The stop-loss is going to keep me from retiring ... but I guess I'm okay with it because it's what's best for the unit."

"I don't think it's fair for people who (don't have a lot of time left in their contract)," said Staff Sgt. Mitzi Cooper, 559th Quartermaster Battalion. "If they have enough people for the mission, they should let the people with one foot out the door go ... they've done their time."

Others argue that although they may not like the thought of stop-loss, unit cohesion depends on Soldiers staying in.

"I think stop-loss is a good thing, because right before a deployment,

you need a tight unit," said Spc. Stephen Cunningham, a driver from Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison.

"(We) did sign up for this job," said a Specialist in C Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment.

"It's necessary for the mission to get done," said Master Sgt. Christopher O'Neill, Hunter's installation operations sergeant.

So we all agree it's a necessary — but what about an "evil"? Maybe it's not exactly that bad ...

"A problem with the division's stop-loss coming up is that there hasn't been very much clear guidance about it," said one noncommissioned officer. "It affects people's lives; if they're planning their futures they have to plan around it." "You hear a lot of rumors about stop-loss, but not many really know the specifics, especially on the lower levels," he added.

The truth of the matter is, it doesn't matter what rank you wear, if you're affected by stop-loss, you think about stop-loss. If you're not affected, you're surrounded by people who are.

So once you have your opinion, decide what you're going to do about it — but please don't become a whining, sissy, girly man, because that would make me look really bad.



Army vet inspires team as USC rookie

Chris Walz
Army News Service

FORT MYER, Va. — It's not 1975. It's not Notre Dame and the crowd is not chanting, "Ru-Dy! Ru-Dy! Ru-Dy!" There's not a "Touchdown Jesus" anywhere in sight. But, there's still an underdog story to be told.

It's 2004. It's Columbia, S.C., and the crowd is chanting, "Fris-Bee! Fris-Bee! Fris-Bee!"

South Carolina Gamecocks wide receiver Tim Frisby played flanker for four snaps. Why is that noteworthy? He's a 39-year-old walk-on.

Frisby, whose locker room nickname is "Pops," received the loudest cheers Saturday and he didn't even touch the pigskin. No catches, no touchdowns. But, the

crowd recognized his unwavering perseverance. There's no doubt where Frisby got his "never say die" attitude — he spent 20 years in the Army and was Ranger-qualified with the 82nd Airborne.

There is an unquestionable age difference between Frisby and his teammates. Every now and again, you see some kid try to make it in baseball, but he can't handle a AA curveball. Quarterbacks Chris Weinke and Matt Mauck each led their team to National Championships after dabbling in baseball. Weinke was 28 years old and Mauck was 25.

Frisby, however, graduated high school before most of his teammates were born. He defended the U.S. against Saddam Hussein in Desert Storm before some of his team-

mates entered elementary school. He also served in Kosovo before most of his teammates hit puberty. He's older than many of his coaches and 1988 Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown. No wonder why they call him "Pops."

So, there's little doubt why "The Legend of Frisby" is growing by the minute. "Pops" has six children — the oldest is 16 years old, the youngest is 6 months — and he carries a 3.8 grade point average in broadcast journalism.

Depending on which Gamecocks fan you talk to, Frisby can also leap tall buildings in a single bound. He has X-Ray vision and can run faster than a speeding bullet. Of course, Frisby can also fly and dogs love catching him in the air. Well...I made that last one up.

Despite the blurring line between fact and fiction, the Gamecocks have an inspirational leader. He's a great example of mind over matter and can help teach the young guys — even the seniors — what it's really like in the real world. No football game will ever teach them that.

This story should bring a tear to the Army's collective eye. This is not about free publicity; it's about raising a 19-year-old young man into a leader. He may inspire an Army unit or a 105-man football team. Isn't that what the Army is all about?

Not surprisingly, movie producers have already started knocking on his door to discuss a script. "Fris-Bee! Fris-Bee! Fris-Bee!"

Oh yeah, by the way, the Gamecocks beat Troy, 17-7.

Marne Voice

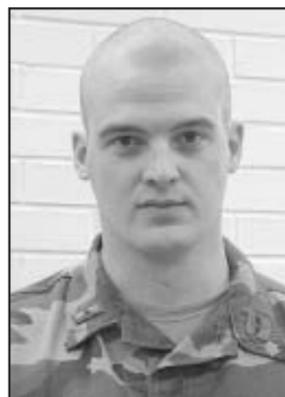
THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

"How do you feel about the stop loss/movement?"

"The Army's got to do what it's got to do; we're at war. We knew this might happen when we signed up, we can't cry about it."

Warrant Officer 1
Daniel S. Bickett
B Co., 2/3 Avn.



"I don't think it's a good thing, because the quality of the Soldiers will decline if they're forced to stay in."

Staff Sgt. Greg Brown
HHC, 603rd ASB

"I don't think it's right, I don't agree with it. Soldiers who have done their time should be able to get out, especially those who are about to retire."

Sgt. 1st Class Paula Connelly,
Hq Co., USAG



"I don't agree with it, because Soldiers who have already been to Iraq should be able to get out so they don't have to go back."

Staff Sgt. Antwon Gholson
A Co., 603rd ASB

"I signed up for three years and that's all I want to do."

Pfc. Jeremiah Hitt
HHC, 603rd ASB



"I'm getting out in two months, and I might be affected by it, so I'm not happy about that."

Sgt. Matthew W. Thornton
549th MP Co.

BUSTER'S BATTERY



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Write a letter to the editor!

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Veteran still enjoys club scene

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

Even after retiring from the same position as a Soldier, Thomas Fisher maintains that the best part of his job as the Hunter Army Airfield club manager is the compliments from people after they have used the services of the staff and club.

Fisher oversees the operations of the Hunter Club, known as the Community Activities Center.

"When the club and recreation center combined, the concept and name changed to CAC, which entails both operations," Fisher said.

They were combined for better access and convenience for the Soldier, Fisher said. The CAC gets appropriated funds when operating from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The use of the CAC by Soldiers and others during that time helps offset the cost of operations.

Events held after 5 p.m. — such as wedding receptions and hail and farewell parties, etc. — fall under the umbrella of club operations that then use the non-appropriated fund activity monies.

Fisher has been the Hunter Club manager since 2001. From 1985 to 1987, he was stationed in the area and later became the Club Stewart manager in 1987 until his military retirement in 1998. He has remained in the area for almost 20 years.

Fisher advises the public to schedule events at the CAC as soon as they know the dates since reservations fill quickly. The busiest times are November and December. Now is the time to start booking for winter 2005 parties, and there might be some vacancies, Fisher said.

With service that is comparable to Hyatt offerings, the CAC takes pride in always having ample food on hand for catering functions. For instance, the CAC provided the meals for the support staff and media during the G-8 Summit held in June. The CAC had three shifts running with 24-hour operations. Continental breakfasts, deli bar, lunches, and evening snacks were served at the Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group Facility on Hunter.

"The challenge comes into play when you have to move your operation," Fisher said. They had to make sure all the supplies were in place for success.



Jennifer Wingfield

Tom Fisher, Hunter CAC manager, discusses plans with Maria Blankenship, ACS financial education specialist.

The lunch meal is a daily operation of the Hunter CAC. This meal is available a la carte or buffet. Menu prices begin at \$4.50 while the buffet is \$6.50.

Fisher credits chef Keith Cain for much of the success.

"Keith is a great chef with even greater experience. We pride ourselves on him because everyone tells us what excellent food is served. According to our patrons, the taste and the quality are superb," he said.

Cain can whip up plated or gourmet meals. He is credited with having a wide range of knowledge of food. Ethnic meals prepared at the club by Cain include kosher, Japanese, and Korean.

The club can provide any type of cuisine, but the most popular is the family buffet, Fisher said.

"This includes roast beef, herb-roasted chicken, mashed potatoes, rice, carrots, and blended vegetables," Fisher said.

"With the recent renovations and the chef's reputation, word about the Hunter CAC is spreading quickly. "The renovations will allow more people access and provide a better quality place," Fisher said. "However it can still cater to events off the premises."

Renovations will expand the building a bit more. Current rooms and seating capacities at the CAC are the bar room, ball room (150 capacity), Hunter room (125 capacity), VIP room (50 capacity) and the breakfast room (75 capacity). There is also an enclosed patio area that can be used for barbecue's and is next to the pool.

Fisher said Lloyd Haddick, who showed him a lot about the business that he had

not learned yet when he began in the club program in 1985, has influenced him quite a bit. He also has learned a lot from the division chief, Robert Tunkel.

Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Fisher lives in Hinesville and has been commuting every day since 2001. During this daily ritual, he mulls over the prospects for the day and weeks ahead, while listening to jazz.

In his spare time he plays basketball and baseball with his three grandsons and likes to bowl occasionally. "My schedule really keeps me from doing much else," Fisher said.

Fisher added, "I am a modest guy and I really don't care for the limelight. The best thing for me is to bring service to the Soldiers and the customers. That is what makes me happy."

CENTCOM News

Coalition medical Soldiers aid Afghan children wounded in militant attack

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — Terrorists once again showed their lack of compassion and honor Monday when a suicide militant ran into a building in Kunar Province with a grenade, blowing himself up and injuring seven children.

Fortunately, Coalition Forces here have not lost sight of their honor, and are using compassion to help the wounded children.

"We see everyone," said Lt. Col. Margaret Sullivan, officer in charge of the Intermediate Care Unit at the Combined Task Force 325th Field Hospital on Bagram Airfield, the highest-level medical facility in Afghanistan. "It's hard to comprehend the trauma we see children go through. It's hard to see children who are shot. It's very difficult."

Sullivan works with an array of patients in the ICU, and said everyone gets equal treatment.

"We treat everybody equally," Sullivan said. "We keep them all here until they are better."

One young Afghan girl, Marium, 10, is currently being treated here for injuries incurred in Kunar Province Monday, when an enemy insurgent blew himself up with a grenade, injuring Marium and six other Afghan children.

"I like it here," Marium said. "They're taking good care of me."

Marium added that she is looking forward to going back to school to study Pashtu, the Afghan equivalent to English in the U.S., when she gets out of the hospital.

Fazel Allah Hai, Marium's uncle, is staying by her side at the hospital, and said school means a great deal to Marium.

"She's very happy that she's going to school," Allah Hai said.

Marium is awaiting surgery for her face where the grenade blast did the most dam-

age. "We're happy to do anything to help her," said Dr. (Capt.) Kim Trundy, the surgeon who will be working with Marium. Dr. (Maj.) Gregory Bramblett is an Ophthalmologist, and will also be working with Marium. "I'm glad to help her in any way I can," Bramblett said.

Iraqi police service train in hostage negotiations

BAGHDAD — The Civilian Police Assistance Training Team, as part of their ongoing effort to organize, train and equip Iraqi police services, began a Hostage Crisis Negotiation course this week at an undisclosed location. Iraqi police officers from all over Iraq and from different Iraqi police agencies are attending the course.

"This course is a tool," said instructor Wayne Lehman. "We're giving them tools, resources, and ideas. We give them some concepts to be able to work things out for themselves."

The course has 31 students from the Iraqi Police Service, Department of Border Enforcement, the Iraqi Highway Patrol, the Major Crimes Unit and other agencies. The two-week course was implemented recently and it gives officers skills in coping with the rash of kidnappings occurring in Iraq. Many of Iraq's kidnappings target Iraqis.

On Sept. 16 ten Iraqi police officers in Magdad traveled to a residential neighborhood as part of their regular street patrol when they ran into a hostage scenario. A suspicious man was reported in a neigh-

borhood and as police investigated the report, a gun fight broke out.

It was then that police noticed that there was a boy being held hostage. After a 45 minute standoff, the five year-old boy was removed safely and four suspects were taken into custody. The boy, the investigation revealed, was a hostage who had been kidnapped for ransom by the suspects.

The course covers principles of negotiation, negotiation criterion, considerations, techniques and guidelines, as well as other topics. But the course, Lehman says, is not all inclusive and it is not designed to prepare police officers for high-profile political kidnappings.

"It's a philosophy we're going to give them here," Lehman said. "We're here to try to teach them how to deal with the day-to-day stuff that the local cops have to deal with. It's got to start somewhere. They're on the street everyday."

Lehman, who taught the FBI's hostage negotiation lesson plan in the United States, assembled the course plan from scratch. Ordinarily, most hostage courses also include a segment where a psychologist teaches a block of instruction. CPATT's course doesn't include a psychological segment, but Lehman says the organization is working on it.

"It's got to start somewhere," Lehman said. And this course will help officers with a kidnapping problem that Lehman called, "Immense."

Capt. Hatim Uthman, a police officer in Baghdad since 1995, and a graduate of three training courses since the fall of Saddam Hussein, said the course broadened his thought process on the job.

"This course gets me to think about things differently," Uthman said. "It offers

new information for me. We're here to try to learn how we can help in kidnapping scenarios.

"We're all experienced here, but this is new to us," Uthman said.

New water treatment station for Al Rashid

BAGHDAD — Work to renovate the Al Rashid water treatment station in the Zaphernia district began Sept. 20 as a part of Multi-National force efforts to rebuild and renovate essential infrastructure and improve quality of life for residents.

"This is the plant that provides fresh drinking water to the people of Zaphernia," said Lt. Col. Brian Dosa, commander of the 8th Engineer Battalion. "About 250,000 people get their drinking water from this plant."

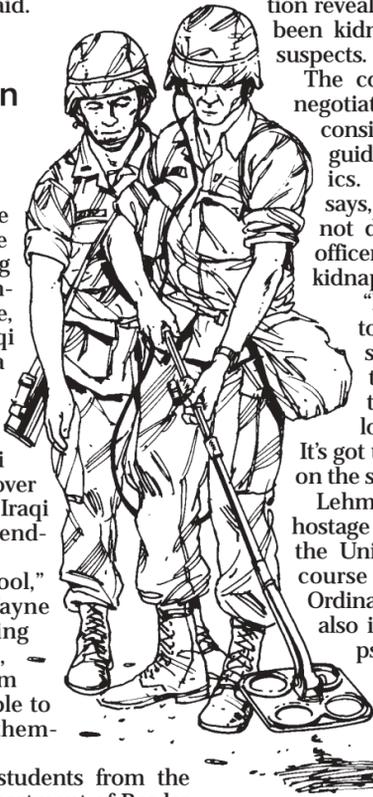
Drawing water from the Tigris River, which geographically divides Baghdad and provides life-sustaining water to its residents, the water treatment plant has survived nearly 50 years of use. Recently looting gutted the electrical components of the plant, seriously affecting the quality and quantity of fresh water supplied to the people of Zaphernia.

"The plant is old," Dosa said. "Over the years there have been projects to maintain it and rehabilitate it, but it is in sadly in need of more work to improve the quantity of the water and the quality of the water."

He said the current project addresses immediate problems, but plans to do more once funding becomes available.

Labor and materials to fix various pumps and electrical systems around the plant over the next two months will total \$140,000. The money comes from funds allocated to Iraq's infrastructure needs by the United States government.

The need for the renovations was identified through the 8th Engineer Battalion's work with local Iraqi leadership. Baghdad-based engineers worked with the plant's director to complete an initial survey for the project's scope and cost.



POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Assault consummate by a battery, aggravated assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 26-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Ridgeway, N. Car.

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Larceny of AAFES property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 18-year-old male
- **Charge:** Simple assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 48-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Failure to exercise due care
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Following too closely
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Indecent assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, 2nd Bde.



- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old male
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, no driver's license on person, following too closely
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Master Sergeant, 35-year-old male, separate battalion.
- **Charge:** Obstructing roadway
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 18-year-old male
- **Charges:** Obstruction of justice, speeding (60/40), suspended tags, driving on a revoked drivers license
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 41-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving on suspension or revocation, speeding (47/30)
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 34-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Master Sergeant (Ret.), 50-year-old male
- **Charge:** Shoplifting
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old

- male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 24-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple battery, obstruction by fleeing, obstruction by resisting
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Simple battery
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple battery, criminal trespassing
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful making, altering or tampering with military identification card
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 18-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, drinking underage, forgery of military identification, reckless driving, speeding (70/55), failure to show proof of insurance
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 25-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana

- **Location:** Orlando, Fla.

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 25-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Speeding (50/25), driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Civilian, 25-year-old female
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, giving false information to a police officer, displaying someone else's license
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of amphetamines, unlawful possession of a weapon
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Underage drinking, forgery of military identification card
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 25-year-old female
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding (70/55), no insurance, false call for ambulance, false info or statement to police officer
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 1st Bde.

- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding (80/70), no drivers license on person, no proof of insurance
- **Location:** Pembroke, Ga.
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-

- year-old female, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Altering military identification
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 17-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Underage drinking
- **Location:** Pembroke, Ga.

- **Subject:** Sergeant 1st Class, 43-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, weaving on roadway
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Civilian, 50-year-old male
- **Charge:** Hog mishap
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old female, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Assault consummated by a battery
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 30-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Damage to private property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana, false official statement
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 21-year-old female
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia
- **Location:** Hunter

Army helping with recovery after 4th hurricane

Lt. Colonel Stan Heath

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — More than 1,300 Army Corps of Engineers employees are now supporting hurricane recovery efforts in Florida, Alabama and surrounding states affected by Hurricanes Charley, Francis, Ivan, and Jeanne.

The recovery operation is the largest of its type ever undertaken by the Corps of Engineers, officials said, and it extends to areas flooded by the storms' aftermath.

For many residents living along the eastern Florida coast, Hurricane Jeanne Sept. 26 was another punch that they could not afford to take.

The Corps' emergency response to the destruction has been to provide ice, water, power, temporary roof covering, and technical oversight of debris removal at various locations hit hard by hurricanes. All of the Corps' effort is carried out in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said.

They said the mission is a complex and tiring logistical operation shared by FEMA, Corps personnel and numerous other organizations such as the Red Cross and state and local emergency responders.

Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Carl Strock is now visiting the Corps' Emergency Response and Recovery Organizations in Mobile, Ala., and in Pensacola, Fla. His staff is planning a subsequent visit for

him to see Corps operations in eastern Florida this weekend.

One of the most widely known efforts assigned to the Corps by FEMA is the temporary covering of roofs damaged by the storms. Corps contractors are placing plastic sheeting over the roofs. The project was coined "Operation Blue Roof," for the color of the plastic sheeting.

More than 25,000 roof covers have been installed so far throughout Florida. The day after Hurricane Jeanne roared through Florida, Corps and contractor teams installed 54 "blue roofs" in St. Lucie county. Many more are being installed now, officials said.

Corps teams have delivered more than 150,000 self-help tarps to counties in Florida, and 30,000 in Alabama for residents to install themselves.

In Alabama, three counties have asked for Corps assistance with debris removal. Working through the Advance Contracting Initiative, the Corps activated its contract with Phillips and Jordan to remove close to 1 million cubic yards of debris, an amount of material equivalent to about 33,000 large truckloads.

For some 200 east-coast Florida residents affected by Frances and Jeanne, FEMA is providing temporary housing at Saufley Field, adjacent to the Pensacola Naval Air Station. The Corps of Engineers provided logistical support for the housing by setting up and connecting temporary utilities.



Jonas Jordan

David Whedon from the Corps of Engineers oversees debris cleanup in Mobile County, Ala.

The units each have a small bedroom, a bunk-bed area, a kitchen/living room area, a bathroom with a shower, air conditioning, a refrigerator and a stove.

This is the first time the Corps of Engineers has used the Expedient Housing plan which allows the Corps to provide logistical support for the housing very quickly. The Corps and its contractors agree to provide full logistical support within 72 hours after the needed materials arrive on site.

This type of temporary housing is unique because utilities are placed on top of the ground instead of buried under

ground. This allows the setup to occur much faster than was previously possible.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers teams have been working in Florida and Alabama for six weeks for Charley, Francis and Ivan and are now responding to their fourth hurricane. The organization's effort, as are the hurricanes themselves, unprecedented, officials said.

"The Corps is very adaptable," said Col. Ray Alexander, leading the response and recovery effort in Alabama. "I know our folks are tired, but they keep on demonstrating their flexibility."

Courts-Martial

The following cases were tried by special courts-martial or general courts martial at Fort Stewart with the following results:

Special Courts-Martial

United States v. Pfc. Franz W. Duperval, 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Aug. 18, the military judge found Pfc. Duperval guilty of absent without leave. The military judge sentenced Pfc. Duperval to: be confined for 6 months, a bad-conduct discharge and reduced to the grade of E-1.

United States v. Pvt. Aaron L. Ellis, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 87th Combat Support Battalion, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Aug. 25, the military judge found Pvt. Ellis guilty of larceny, opening of mail and stealing mail. The military judge sentenced Pvt. Ellis to: be confined for 7 months, a bad-conduct discharge, reduced to the grade of E-1 and forfeiture of \$795 pay per month for 7 months.

United States v. Pvt. Sean M. Young, 632nd Maintenance Company, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Sept. 2, the military judge found Pvt. Young guilty of absent without leave, use of marijuana, possession of marijuana and possession of an altered identification card. The military judge sentenced Pvt. Young to: confinement for 7

months and a bad-conduct discharge.

United States v. Pvt. Corey L. Robinson, 24th Ordnance Company, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Sept. 10, the military judge found Pvt. Robinson guilty of absent without leave and wrongful use of marijuana. The military judge sentenced Pvt. Robinson to: confinement for 7 months and a bad-conduct discharge.

United States v. Sgt. Nathan L. Gardner, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Sept. 22, the military judge found Sgt. Gardner guilty of desertion. The military judge sentenced Sgt. Gardner to: confinement for 7 months, a bad-conduct discharge and reduced to pay grade E-1.

General Courts-Martial

United States v. Spc. Keith A. DeJoy, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, Fort Stewart, Georgia. On Sept. 22, the military judge found Spc. DeJoy guilty of accessory after the fact, fraudulent enlistment, absent without leave, violation of lawful regulation, fleeing apprehension, wrongfully possessing a firearm, false swearing, obstruction of justice and carrying a concealed weapon. The military judge sentenced Spc. DeJoy to: be confined for 4 years, reduced to pay grade E-1 and a dishonorable discharge.

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Commissary Council
The Stewart Commissary Council, which provides the Commissary manager with customer insights, will hold its quarterly meeting Oct. 27 at 9 a.m. at the Stewart Commissary. The council encourages all authorized patrons to attend.

Youth Center
New activities for CYS members provided by Youth Presidential Fitness Club, grades 6 to 12 at 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Activities include hiking, circuit training, running, walking, gym time for cardio fitness and light weights and club meetings. Call 767-4491 for more information.

Top of the Rock Run
A 5K and 10K run is being held Saturday, Oct. 2, 8 a.m. at the end of West 6th St., adjacent to Newman Fitness Center. For details visit www.stewartmwr.com/2004rockrun.pdf.

Photography contest
Oct. 15 is the last day to submit photos to Leisure Activities Center. Winners go to final Army-wide competition in Nov. For more information call 767-8609.

Golf Scramble
The golf scramble is being held at Taylors Creek Golf Course, Oct. 16, at 1 p.m. Registration deadline is Oct. 14. Members' fee is \$20 and non members \$25.

Comedians
Phatt Katz Comedy Show will be held at 8:00 p.m. The show will be held every first Sunday for the rest of the year. Each month will be a new set of comedians or for more information visit www.phattkatz.com.

Hispanic Heritage
The Hispanic Heritage Month Observance will be held Oct. 1 at 1:30 p.m. at Woodruff Theater. Call 767-8547 for more information.

Hunter

Golf Tournament
Saint Francis Cabrini School in Savannah will be hosting its first Annual Golf Tournament Friday at Hunter. The \$50 price includes a box lunch, door prizes and an afternoon of fun. It will be at 1 p.m. shotgun start. For registration forms or more information, call 925-6249 or come by the school at 11500 Middleground Road.

FEGLI
Federal Employees Group Life Insurance has open season through the month of September. Questions and answers related to eligibility and the open season call 1-877-276-9287 or visit the Web site at: <https://www.abc.army.mil>.

Bingo
Bingo takes place in Bldg. 128 and is open 7 days a week with different specials each day. For times and information call 351-0044.

Soccer/Football/Cheerleading
Registration is underway for the month of Oct. for Youth Center members. Accepting ages 4 to 13 for soccer, ages 6 to 13 for football and ages 6 to 13 for cheerleading. Sports fee is \$20. For more information call 352-5425.

Library
The library is open Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call 353-2403.

Waiting Spouses Group
The group will meet Oct. 12 at the ACS building (Bldg. 1286) at 1 p.m. For more information, call 352-6816.

Resume Workshop
This workshop is held at ACS, Bldg. 1286m Oct. 19 at 9:30 a.m. Learn how to compose your resume to help increase job opportunities. For more information call 352-6816.

Winn /Tuttle

Half Day at Tuttle Oct. 1
Tuttle Army Health Clinic will close at 11 a.m. Oct. 1. For more information, call 352-6500 or 1-800-652-9221.

Winn Services Limited Oct. 1
Services at Winn will be limited 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 1. For more information, call 370-6662.

ER Remodeling
The Emergency Department will have minor disruption for remodeling. All emergencies and urgent care patients should still report to the ER. Non-emergency patients are encouraged to schedule appointments with their primary care manager. Appointments, including same-day appointments, may be scheduled by calling 370-6633.

Update DEERS
Beneficiaries must keep their DEERS information up-to-date or they may not be able to receive referrals, schedule appointments or access TRICARE Online. Winn and Tuttle use DEERS information to con-

tact you regarding referrals and appointments. DEERS information can be updated by calling 1-800-538-9552, stopping by Bldg. 1209 or visiting www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm.

EDIS
The Educational and Development Intervention Services is now located next to the main pharmacy in Winn. Military families with children up to 3 years old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call EDIS for a free screening. For more information, call 370-6370.

TRICARE Phone Numbers
For general health care information, you can call the Humana Military Audio Library at 1-877-217-7946. If you have questions about TRICARE, you can call TRICARE at 1-800-444-5445 or the Health Benefits Office at 370-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Marne TV

September 2004 Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every weekday. Tune in to the Marne Report six times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m.	Army Newswatch	Noon	MARNE REPORT
5:30 a.m.	MARNE REPORT	1 p.m.	Air Force News
6:30 a.m.	Air Force News	4:30 p.m.	Navy News
7 a.m.	Navy News	5 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
7:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch	6 p.m.	Army Newswatch
8 a.m.	MARNE REPORT	6:30 p.m.	Air Force News
9 a.m.	Air Force News	7 p.m.	Navy News
9:30 a.m.	Navy News	10 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
11:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch	11 p.m.	Army Newswatch
		Midnight	MARNE REPORT

DRINKING & DRIVING DON'T MIX



First 'Blue to Green' warriors completing transition

Spc. Andrea Eppel

Army News Service

FORT KNOX, Ky. — The first class of the Warrior Transition Course turning former Sailors and Airmen into Soldiers, is scheduled to graduate today.

The class, which began Sept. 2, has 26 trainees. But only a handful were former Airmen and Sailors taking part in the Army's new "Blue to Green" program. The rest were Soldiers with breaks in service, officials said.

Another Warrior Transition Course is scheduled to begin Oct. 7 at Fort Knox, and officials there said they expect about 100 of the trainees to be from the Blue to Green program. Under the new recruiting program, Sailors and Airmen can maintain their current job specialty and rank by enlisting in the Army.

In the four-week course, the new Soldiers learn about rank structure and identification, Army courtesies, and other differences between the services.

"We will teach them such things as basic rifle marksmanship with the M-16," said Capt. Thomas Oakley, C Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Infantry commander, which conducts the Warrior Transition Course.

The course itself is not new, he explained, as it has been conducted for years to get Soldiers with breaks in service "back up to speed."

Oakley referred to the course's curriculum as a "condensed version of what the privates will get in basic training."

All of the Soldiers have been through a branch-specific basic training, he said, so this 28-day course is more of a refresher for them.

In the past, the average break in service

for Soldiers taking the course has been five and a half years, Oakley said, with the time of separation ranging from 24 hours to 14 years.

Spc. Brandon Beaver, former Navy petty officer third class, is in the current Warrior Transition Course.

"My grandmother told me about it," Beaver said.

With his Navy contract expiring, he wanted to stay in the military, he called his recruiter and asked about the program.

"No one really knew about it when I first asked," he said.

Beaver said he liked the idea of being able to keep his rank and the ability to transfer into a similar military occupational specialty.

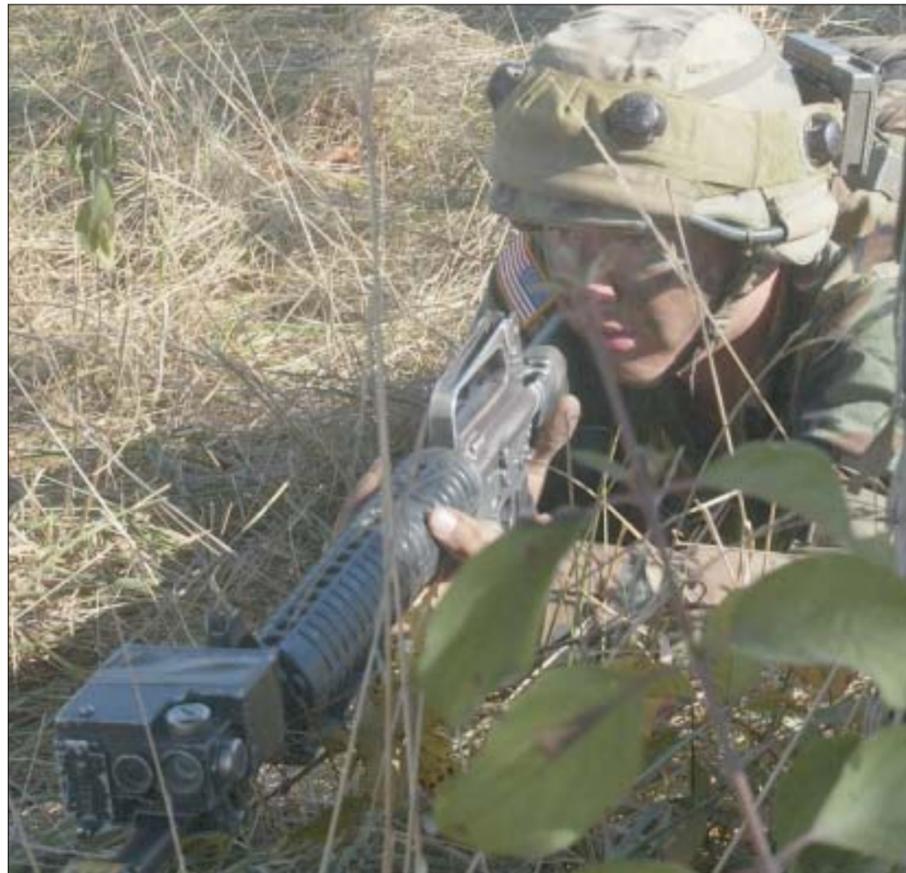
Another new Soldier, Pvt. Steven Scott, is a former Airman. Scott heard about the program from his recruiter. He said his recruiter called him and told him about the program, because it would mean he wouldn't have to repeat basic training.

Both Soldiers are experiencing the challenge of changing branch-specific formalities.

The more formal Army courtesies, such as parade rest, are challenging to Beaver. He said he has always worked in a multi-service environment, and is now trying to adjust to training where the courtesies are enforced.

The Soldiers also train up in the core warrior tasks and drills.

Oakley added, "The intent on that is so everyone — it doesn't matter what MOS they are — everyone needs those basic skills to go out into the battlefield and survive, whether they'll be a driver or an infantryman."



Spc. Christopher Fincham

Spc. Michael Bonnett takes up a prone fighting position behind some concealment during the Warrior Challenge, the final exercise of the four-week Warrior Transition Course. Bonnett, a former Sailor, is scheduled to graduate Sept. 30.

Iraqi phrases ... Commands, Warnings and Instructions

For the next few issues, the Frontline will publish some Iraqi phrases which are extremely helpful and frequently used. This is the fourth in the series:

Please — ra-ja-'an

Thank you — shuk-ran

Can someone assist you? — Yeg-der aH-Had yi-saa-aa-id-na?

Ok — zien

Excuse me/I'm sorry — el-afuu/Ani mut-'as-sif

Yes — ee/naam

No — la

Maybe — yim-kin

Right — SaH

Wrong — gha-laT

Here — ih-na

There — ih-nak

I want — a-reed

I do not want — ma a-reed



JRTC

Joint Readiness Training Center



Spartan Six trains for negotiations

Pfc. Ben Brody

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — All of 2nd Brigade is learning about Arab culture during this Joint Readiness Training Center rotation, most through pamphlets and briefings. But Col. Joseph DiSalvo, brigade commander, took it a step further, actually engaging in mock negotiations with role-playing Iraqis Sept. 13 at Warrior Hall.

'Engagements' is a training exercise conducted over four days during which unit commanders practice negotiating peace with local Iraqi leaders. Each session lasts about an hour, and is facilitated entirely through interpreters. The setting is inside a tribal leader's home, where cultural sensitivities are particularly important.

"The main goals of this exercise are to practice building good relationships with local leaders, and by doing so, gaining information about insurgent activity that hampers the peace process," said Maj. Matt Anderson, exercise observer/controller. "Empowering the sheik is important during these meetings, because he's the one quelling the angry mob outside."

DiSalvo's meeting with Sheik Ahmad began on a tense note, as the scenario provided that he respond to an incident where his troops fired upon a wedding party, killing five civilians, after celebratory gunfire was thought to be hostile.

DiSalvo got straight to business, offering medical aid for the victims and monetary compensation. The sheik responded by demanding the Soldiers responsible be turned over to him to face justice under his jurisdiction. DiSalvo countered that Coalition Provisional Authority law, supported by the Iraqi government, states that US troops fall under U.S. jurisdiction and that if his investigation revealed impropriety, the Soldiers would be duly prosecuted.

Sheik Ahmad accepted this argument,



Pfc. Ben Brody

Col. Joseph DiSalvo speaks with role-player Hamdan Goumaa as part of negotiation training at Warrior Hall Sept. 13.

and explained that his people hold him accountable to see that justice is served. Relations gradually warmed between the two men, and the sheik offered DiSalvo information on foreign militants hiding in his town as they drank tea.

After the meeting, DiSalvo and the observer/controllers declared it a success, and launched into an hour-long after action review, where the role players spoke about the cultural differences that must be overcome in order to communicate courteously and effectively.

"Iraqis are often embarrassed by talk of money after a tragedy - the money

helps the victims, and everyone knows this, but it is not appropriate to speak of it immediately," said Hamdan Goumaa, who played Sheik Ahmad. "In Arab culture, especially Iraqi culture, a sincere apology is worth far more than money initially."

Goumaa, who hails from Sudan and has worked for the United Nations for 14 years in both Africa and the US, said he participates in the training scenarios because it helps save lives, both US and Iraqi.

"I help with this training with the intention of promoting peace in Iraq,"

Goumaa said. "Soldiers returning from Iraq who have taken these classes say they've found it very useful, and it often motivates them to learn more about Iraqi culture."

DiSalvo said he thought the training went well, and that some of the challenges he faced negotiating were communicating subtle indicators of interest and compassion that are of paramount importance in the Arab world.

"Just throwing an Arabic word in there once in a while goes a long way to show your host that you're interested," DiSalvo said.

260th LTF meets logistical needs

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. —The 260th Quartermaster Battalion, acting as a logistics task force, is providing services from cooking to water purification while at the Joint Readiness Center for Aviation and 2nd Brigades.

The battalion is reorganizing to support an entire brigade logistically.

"We're covering areas that you would normally see in a corps support battalion," said Maj. Charles Marbas, 260th QM Bn. executive officer.

The 110th is providing the rotation's bulk fuel needs and has supplied 109,000 gallons of fuel for the rotation during the last week from the Fuel System Supply Point.

"We're the lifeline to victory for the 260th QM Bn.," said Pfc. Travis Booker, a petroleum supply specialist with the 110th.

To get the fuel and other supplies where they are needed, the Soldiers of the 104th Transportation Co., based in Fort Benning, Ga., and the 416th Trans. Co. are on hand to move the supplies.

"Whatever the mission calls for, we'll be ready to do it," said Pfc. Fritz Sanchez, a 416th transportation operator.

The task force isn't just focused on supplying fuel for the brigades. They are also handling the receiving and distributing of parts for the rotation.

The 632nd not only repairs a variety of equipment but also coordinates the variety of parts that are needed to keep a brigade's vehicles operational.

The parts are shipped from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield and are received at the motor pool. From there, they are inventoried, and the 632nd is responsible for getting them to their customers - the units.

"It's important to keep track of because different parts go to different vehicles so the companies



Sgt. Raymond Piper

A Soldier from the 260th LTF prepares a meal for Soldiers at JRTC.

need to get the right part so they can fix their vehicle," said Spc. Chante Matthews, a 632nd standard supply automated warehouse specialist.

The battalion is operating a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit at the ISB. The system is connected to a fresh water stream and will be filtering water for use during the rotation.

"This water (after it's filtered) is actually better than what you get out of your tap," said Spc. Robert Higgins, water purification specialist.

The ROWPU is able to filter both fresh and salt water to make it potable and produces 350 gallons water an hour. A water buffalo can hold about 300 gallons.

The rotation will give the Soldiers

valuable experience based on events in Iraq, such as improvised explosive devices, base defense and reacting to civilians on the battlefield, Marbas said.

"The training helps teach you to keep a higher state of awareness and the proper procedures when you're in a convoy," said Spc. John Frank, a transportation operator with the 416th.

Spc. Tiffany Jones, a rewire systems and repair specialist, went with the 3rd Infantry Division during OIF and said, the training is going to help prepare her for a different situation.

Sanchez, who is just getting to the 104th, said, "I'm going to learn the things that will keep me alive in Iraq or Afghanistan."

Spartans receive detention ops training

Staff Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — In the months since the Abu Ghraib prison scandal, the Army has taken additional steps and measures to ensure such atrocities never happen again.

The Joint Readiness Training Center has adopted a modern approach to detention operations training which adapts monthly to the current conditions in Iraq.

Military police and other soldiers from 2nd Brigade had the opportunity to take part in a two-day block of instruction, offered by the JRTC Military Police Observer/Controller cell, at Warrior Hall Sept. 6 through Sept. 7.

According to Sgt. 1st Class David Hobbs, Brigade MP Team observer/controller, the detention operations instruction they give is "the best possible training Soldiers working with detainees can receive."

It included one day of battalion-level leader training, concluding with brigade classroom training and hands-on demonstrations of how to properly restrain a detainee.

The goal of the training, he said, is to have an Army-wide standard for Soldiers deploying to Iraq and any other part of the world when it comes to handling and processing detainees.

"Every Soldier that will be working in detention (operations) at JRTC or Iraq who has received this class will have not doubt how to correctly and lawfully handle detainees," Hobbs said. "What makes this training so unique is that it adapts to the current conditions in Iraq with each rotation based on the current intelligence."

A focal point of the training was defining and differentiating the roles of the military police and military intelligence personnel at detention facilities.

This unique and modern approach to detention operations training is welcomed by Capt. Adam Smith, 2nd Bde. MP planner and brigade holding facilities officer.

"We want to have a common, no questions asked, basis of training to avoid possible scandal," he said. "But most importantly, we want to do it right."

According to Smith, the JRTC training has helped to reinforce the individual training MPs routinely conduct, including detainee handling, proper and thorough searches, and proper processing procedures.

Proper processing of detainees had played an even greater role in Iraq since the transition of authority and reinstatement of the Iraqi criminal justice system.

"Every piece of documentation has to be completed accurately and properly ... to include sworn statements from witnesses," he said, stressing the importance of attention to detail in cases of common Iraqi crime. "The evidence we transfer to the Iraqi judicial system will be a basis for whether or not some common criminals are prosecuted."

As the now-infamous scandal continues to make headlines, the Army and the Soldiers of the Spartan Brigade have taken the proper steps to ensure history doesn't repeat itself.

"There's a right way and a wrong way to do things," Smith said. "(Spartan Brigade) Soldiers know the right way."



Maj. Alayne Conway

Commanders and staff from Vanguard Brigade receive an operations order during the Leader Training Program at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

Vanguard Bde. leadership trains at JRTC

Unit battle staffs refine military decision-making skills

Maj. Alayne Conway

4th Brigade Public Affairs Officer

FORT POLK, La. — Chaplain (Maj.) Blake Bowers has deployed to the Joint Readiness Training Center four times previously, but never for five days of intensive leader training.

He was one of more than 100 senior leaders from the Vanguard Brigade who gathered at JRTC to hone their collective military decision-making skills at the Leader Training Program.

This program is training the Vanguard Brigade for a rotation to JRTC next month and a deployment to Iraq sometime in 2005.

"The program is great for team building and understanding command philosophy and [for] interaction with your particular battlefield operating system," Bowers

said.

He said chaplains have not traditionally been part of the LTP process, but now need to be there to impact the overall command mission. Their participation ensures they understand the mission to the fullest extent.

Brigade and battalion staffs deploying to LTP for five days is nothing new. Units have rotated to JRTC to attend LTP since 1993, said Maj. Collin Hunton, LTP operations officer. He also said that on average, JRTC has 12 brigades rotate every year.

Hunton said the mission of LTP is to prepare commanders and staffs by enhancing skills, processes, and teamwork in planning and leadership.

"LTP is the first contact a unit has with the combat training center and when they step out of the CTC rotation, they are going to be well pre-

pared for their deployment," he added.

With a deployment in the near future, the brigade staff chose to focus planning efforts on operations in Iraq and issued their operations order late on the second day. From there, battalion commanders and their staff members moved back to their cubicles to continue hammering out the remaining steps of the seven-step military decision-making process.

Bowers feels he is better prepared to deploy to JRTC and Iraq.

"I feel like my knowledge has greatly increased and I have a better understanding of expectations," he said.

He added that he feels the greatest strength of LTP is how it allows staffs to interact with other battle staffs and see their collective perspective on the important issues.

Safety matters at motor pool

Staff Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — Track and wheeled vehicles are the lifeline of the Spartan Brigade.

Soldiers operate, clean and fix them on a daily basis at the Joint Readiness Training Center as well as at Fort Stewart.

The Soldiers who do work on, in or around them do it a lot.

According to Sam Champion, 2nd Brigade safety specialist, the hours spent working with the vehicles tend to breed complacency when it comes to proper safety practices.

"Motor pool accidents are very common, but preventable," Champion said. "Soldiers are taught to do a job, that the job comes first.

"Sometimes they'll get the job done quickly and effectively, and forget about safety — safety doesn't have to be compromised."

High on the list of vehicle maintenance safety issues are jack stands.

"(Jack stands) are a big deal," he said. "It's important to have them load tested on schedule."

He added that he's come across some jack stands in the past that were either past their load test date or weren't load tested at all.

"A Soldier working under a vehicle with sub-standard jack stands could be killed."

Soldiers who move around atop, as well as operate the vehicles, are also at risk for safety-related injuries.

"Slips, trips and falls are very common among Soldiers in any unit," he said. "A previous rotation (at JRTC) had 24 (slips, trips and falls) that led to injury."

In December 2003, on Stewart during Spartan Focus, a Soldier

was jumping from an M1A2 Abrams Tank when the back of his shirt got caught on the tank and caused serious injury to his back.

"There are people who like to work on or over a vehicle without maintaining three points of contact," Champion said. "It's not until they're injured that they wish they had."

Topping wheeled vehicle safety concerns is the chock block.

"I can't stress enough the importance of putting down a chock block when you park your vehicle — especially on an incline or decline," Champion said. "Depending on how steep the grade is, two may be required."

He added that you can substitute any solid, stable, heavy object for a chock block if one isn't available or two are necessary, and advised, "Just make sure one is securing a front wheel and the other securing a rear wheel ... on the side of the down slope."

An aspect of motor pool safety to be taken just as seriously, according to Champion, is environmental safety. A vehicle's drip pan can prevent leaks from providing the Environmental Protection Agency with greater job security.

"Spills and leaks are hassles, but most in a motor pool are preventable," Champion said. "If you don't have a drip pan, you can use a cardboard box with three trash bags and some sand at the bottom."

Champion is convinced that soldiers want to do the right thing, and often don't realize when they're not.

"You have to always think safety and, when in doubt, ask your supervisor — your (noncommissioned officer) - that's what they're there for."

If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:

1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.

